

**MINUTES OF THE EAST GREENWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008

Hanaford School Cafeteria

200 Middle Road

East Greenwich, RI 02818

**ANY ITEMS CONSIDERED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MAY BE
SUBJECT TO A**

VOTE

7:00p.m.

Call to Order

The November School Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. in the Hanaford School Cafeteria. Members present were: Sue Cienki, Chair, Skip Day, Vice-Chair, MaryEllen Winters, Anne Palumbo, JeanAnn Guliano, and Susan Records as well as Superintendent Charles Meyers, and Director of Administration, Maryanne Crawford, Mrs. Friedemann was absent. Town Council Members, Michael Isaacs, Henry Boezi, Kim Petti, Dr. Mark Schwager and Kim Petti were also present as well as Town Manager William Sequino. Michael Feeney, Chair of the Fields Committee, and Ernie DiSaia, Construction Manager, were present also.

2. Public Comments

Joanne Leach, handed out appreciation packets to the School Committee in honor of National Education Week.

Denise Parris noted that Styrofoam trays are still being used in the

cafeteria at Hanaford School. She would like to see them outlawed. Mrs. Crawford stated that Aramark is working on this and negotiating the cost to buy other trays in bulk. She will follow-up with them. Mrs. Crawford also noted that there is not enough room at Hanaford for a dishwasher. Denise also congratulated the Superintendent and School Committee for the bond being passed. She noted that being green is on the list of priorities.

3. Approval of Minutes – 10-21-08 meeting, and 7-15, 9-16, 10-7 Executive Session Meetings

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Guliano to table the above minutes until the next meeting with the exception of the July 15, 2008 minutes which were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Financial Report

Mrs. Crawford noted that the audit is continuing and we cannot begin our budget process until it is finished. She stated that there is a slight deficit in West Bay Community health because of a high number of claims. She also noted that there will be an increase in our health insurance. Mrs. Crawford would like to invite the Town Manager to a meeting to discuss revenue estimates since it appears that the Town's revenues are down. Mr. Sequino is looking at a drop of revenue of \$525,000 and that needs to be made up. She stated that taxes cannot be raised to offset that. Mrs. Crawford anticipates level funding for State Aid to Education.

5. Recognitions

5.1 Robert Taylor, Custodian at the Frenchtown and Meadowbrook

Farms Schools was recognized for completing 33 years of service.

6. New Business

6.1 Extension of Parental Leave

6.1.1 Mrs. Palumbo made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Records to approve the extension of parental leave for Megan Anastasi, Eldredge Resource Teacher, from December 1, 2008 to January 5, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

6.2 Retirement

6.2.1 Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the retirement of Robert Taylor, custodian at the Frenchtown and Meadowbrook Farms Schools, after 33 years of service. The motion passed unanimously.

6.3 Appointments

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve appointments 6.3.1 and 6.3.2. The motion passed unanimously.

6.3.1 Darrin Bouley, Data Entry Clerk for Special Services, Registration of New Students, State Reporting, and the Student Information System, eff. 11-19

6.3.2 Amy Schwender, One-on-one Paraprofessional at Frenchtown School, effective 9-27-08

6.3.3 Coaching Appointments

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the following coaches: The motion passed unanimously.

- Joe Szymkowicz, head boys' basketball at Cole Middle School for the winter season**
- Stacey Munzert, cheerleading advisor at Cole Middle school for the winter season**
- Sarah Clark, head girls' basketball coach at Cole Middle School for the winter season**
- Evan Kreke, freshman boys' basketball coach at East Greenwich high school for the winter season**
- Peter Dion, head boys' indoor track coach for the winter season**
- Dustin Coleman, assistant indoor boys' track coach for the winter season**
- Kristina Lamoreaux, head girls' swim coach for the winter season, pending receipt of background check**
- Sean Krueger, head boys' swim coach for the winter season**

7. Award Bid for Athletic Fields Improvements

Mr. Meyers stated that it has been a few years since the voters approved the \$6 million bond. He noted that Fleet Corporation was the lowest bidder. He stated that seven firms submitted bids, all bids were examined, and the committee interviewed the lowest bidders. Mr. Meyers stated that we now have six undersized fields and will have seven full sized fields. He added that this is a community project and includes a road to the McHale Property. Mr. Meyers stated that Fleet is a well respected company and they are completing a similar

project in Killingly, CT. He spoke about the add alternates such as high school property landscaping, concrete pad for the bleacher system, bleachers for 1100 with a PA system, scoreboard, sod, logo on the concrete entrance, bullpens which are enclosed, portable pitchers mounds, fencing, and the McHale Property Project. He noted that once the bid is awarded, the committee will sit down to see if they can negotiate some of these items. Mr. Feeney stated that when we install field turf we will only lose one season for sports teams and we will be ready for fall 2009 season. He added that no spring sports can be played on the new fields. The McHale Property development may go slower because of DEM and permitting issues. A pop-up sprinkler system will be installed and is included in the base price. Mr. Feeney also noted that the infrastructure is there for a concession stand, and there will be adequate buffering for the River Farm neighborhood. Mr. Isaacs is concerned about supervision of the project and would like the committee to come to the Town Council to let them know the project is on schedule and that they are adhering to the budget. Mr. Boezi would also like to recommend that there be a written procedure to adopt to address the change payments, change orders, and deletion of add-ons if necessary. It was suggested that a field's construction committee be established to include Charlie Meyers, William Sequino and representatives from our youth leagues. Mr. Feeney would like the field's construction committee streamlined to a small committee, and have them give monthly reports to the School Committee and Town Council. When the budget is finalized it will be presented to the School Committee and Town Council for

approval. Mr. Feeney stated that we lose out when we expect too much oversight. He added that no one wants to see the project go over budget. Mr. DiSaia noted that Fleet is a great company and their bonding capacity is in excess of \$40 million. He added that this project will be the third complex of this magnitude for them and they have done more projects with synthetic turf than anyone in the State.

Mr. Petti asked about our ability to charge out of town groups since they are limited now because of grant grants. He asked that we go back and re-negotiate these agreements. He also spoke about setting up a committee to sell corporate sponsorships and we may be able to build a clubhouse with those funds. It was noted that the Recreation Department will maintain those fields. Mr. Meyers noted that his vision is that the Rhode Island Interscholastic League will want to host playoff games because our new fields will be the premier place.

Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the bid for new athletic fields to Fleet Construction in the amount of \$5,431,000. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Revenue and Expenditure Estimates Information (see Financial Report above)

9. First Reading of Policy against Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

It was noted that Mr. Zajac and Mrs. Meyer worked hard to this policy.

Mrs. Palumbo stated that a subcommittee of the Wellness Committee wanted this policy to be similar in format to the Bullying Policy. A meeting was held with Mr. Podraza, Assistant Principal of EGHS, and the high school resource officers to show them a draft. A parent's

consent form will be sent home at the middle school and the policy

312

will be given out to students at the beginning of health class. The policy will be up on our website. Mrs. Palumbo was thanked for her leadership. Mrs. Palumbo stated that some parents have concerns about dances at the high school and would like to have an amendment in this policy on dances. Mr. Meyers stated that there are things that can be done about the parent's concerns.

10. Charge for the Teacher Contract Negotiation Advisory Committee

Mr. Meyers stated that he will develop a charge for this committee.

11. Mrs. Palumbo made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to approve the out-of-state trip to Woburn, MA for the high school hockey team on December 29th and 30th for a tournament. The motion passed with Mrs. Cienki voting no.

12. Mrs. Palumbo made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Day to approve the out-of-state field trip to High Meadows in Granby, CT for June 10, 2009 for Cole 8th grade students. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Palumbo to approve the out-of-state field trip to Six Flags, New England on May 22, 2009 for high school physics classes. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Mr. Day made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to approve the out-of-state field trip to New York City for high school Spanish classes on May 20, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

15. School Committee Concerns

Mrs. Records asked about a new School Committee member attending the next SORICO meeting.

It was noted that the swearing-in will be held on December 8, 2008.

There was a request to have Shape-Up RI on the next agenda.

Mrs. Records stated that she would like to continue on the consolidation subcommittee. A representative is needed for the energy committee.

Mrs. Cienki, Mr. Day and Mrs. Friedemann were thanked for all their hard work for the past four years.

16. On a motion made by Mr. Day and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:35p.m. as there was no Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Giuliani

Secretary